



**Monday**  
February 6, 2023  
T: 582-7800  
[www.arubatoday.com](http://www.arubatoday.com)  
[facebook.com/arubatoday](https://facebook.com/arubatoday)  
[instagram.com/arubatoday](https://instagram.com/arubatoday)

**Financial aid for the primary sector**

Page 9

**Aruba's ONLY English newspaper**

# Biden's State of the Union to tout policy wins on economy

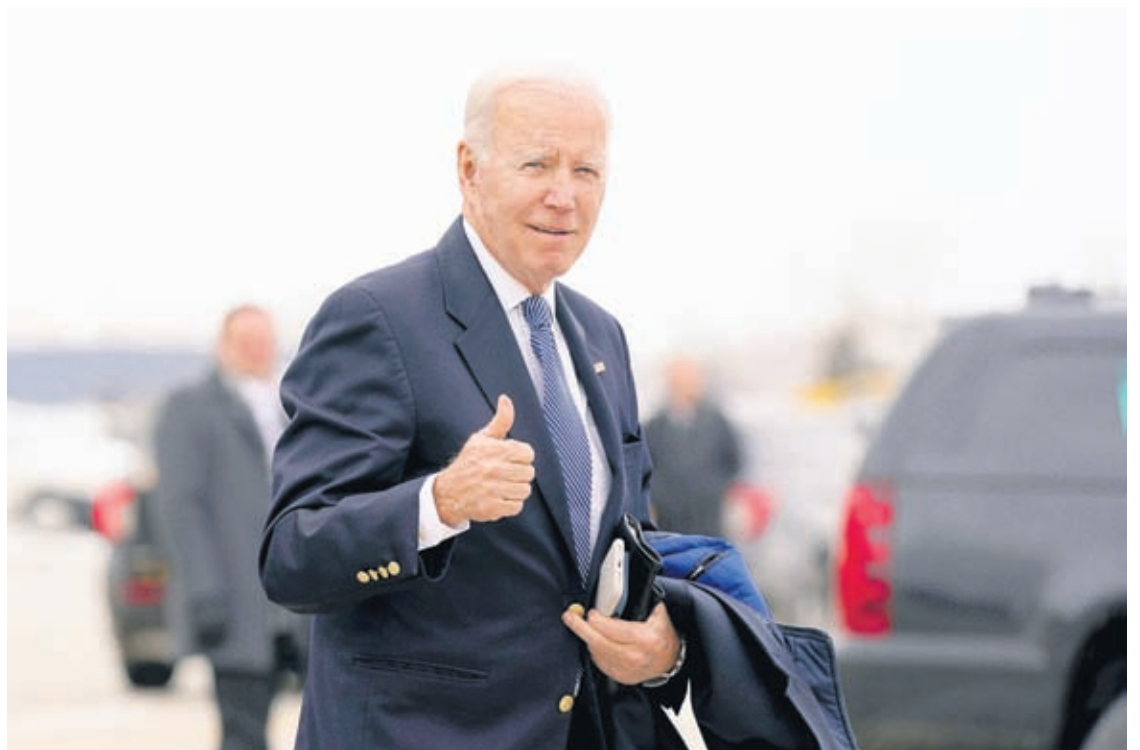
By ZEKE MILLER and SEUNG MIN KIM  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Joe Biden will use his second State of the Union address on Tuesday to remind Americans of how their lives have been improved over his first two years in office, as he tries to confront pessimism in the country and navigate the tricky politics of a newly divided Washington.

Rather than laying out major new policy proposals, Biden was expected to devote much of his speech to highlighting his efforts over the past two years to create jobs, fight inflation and improve the nation's infrastructure. The speech comes as Biden is honing his pitch to voters ahead of his expected announcement in the next few months that he will seek another term in office despite voter frustrations about the direction of the nation.

"Next week, I'll be reporting on the state of the Union," Biden said Friday after a stronger-than-expected jobs report that saw the unemployment rate drop to the lowest level in more than 53 years. "But today, I'm happy to report that the state of the Union and the state of our economy is strong." Biden's remarks from the House rostrum will take place in a sharply different context from a year ago. Republicans now control the chamber, rendering it unlikely that any significant legislation reaches Biden's desk.

Continued on Page 3



President Joe Biden boards Air Force One, Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023, at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base in Syracuse, N.Y.

Associated Press

**LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK**

Professional complimentary pictures on Tuesdays & Fridays

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MARRYBELL MADURO SINGER 6:30pm - 8:30pm	ANGELA FLORES VIOLINIST 6:30pm - 8:30pm	JEAN PAUL SAXOPHONIST 6:30pm - 8:30pm	EDDIE KROON SINGER 6:30pm - 8:30pm	MARRYBELL MADURO SINGER 6:30pm - 8:30pm	RICKY THOMAS GUITARIST 7:00pm - 9:00pm	ANGELA FLORES VIOLINIST 6:30pm - 8:30pm

**Everyday Happy Hour**  
★ 12-1 / 4-6 / 9-10 ★

**All Premium Brands**  
Elegant dining, spectacular ocean views  
enjoyed al fresco or in air-conditioned comfort

**KARAOKE HAPPY HOUR**  
9:00pm - 11:00pm

Reservations at: [watersedge-aruba.com](http://watersedge-aruba.com)  
Tel. +297 583 8000 Ext. 8106  
Located at Costa Linda Beach Resort

**WATER'S EDGE**  
RESTAURANT & BAR

**ARUBA LIVING TODAY**  
Your partner in property mediation

**sale starts now**

**PHASE 1** started september 2020  
**PHASE 2** approx. start 1st quarter 2021  
**PHASE 3** approx. start medio 2022

(+297) 593 - 91 77 | [randolph@livingtoday.aw](mailto:randolph@livingtoday.aw) | [www.livingtoday.aw](http://www.livingtoday.aw)

**COMMANDEURS**  
"A way of living today"

**Starting at \$152,000,-**



# U.S. officials offer Congress briefing on Trump, Biden papers

By **NOMAAN MERCHANT, MICHAEL BALSAMO, and ERIC TUCKER**

**Associated Press**  
**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. officials have offered to brief congressional leaders on their investigation into the classified documents found at former President Donald Trump's Florida residence as well as President Joe Biden's Delaware home and former private office, people familiar with the matter said Sunday. A briefing could come as soon as this week. But it may not meet demands from lawmakers who want to review the documents taken not just from Mar-a-Lago but also from the locations belonging to Biden and the Indiana home of former Vice President Mike



This image contained in a court filing by the Department of Justice on Aug. 30, 2022, and redacted by in part by the FBI, shows a photo of documents seized during the Aug. 8 search by the FBI of former President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida.

Associated Press

Pence. Six months after federal agents first conducted an unprecedented search of a former president's home for classified documents, the White House faces bipartisan pressure to share

what it found with lawmakers who say they are concerned about the potential damage to national security and intelligence sources. Separate special counsels are investigating the documents found in the possession of Trump and Biden. Officials have declined to answer most questions in public or private about what they found, citing the ongoing criminal investigations and a separate "risk assessment" of the possible damage to intelligence sources. Rep. Mike Turner, who heads the House Intelligence Committee, told NBC's "Meet the Press" on Sunday that the administration notified him it would brief on the documents this week. "This administration needs to understand we do have national security urgent matters," said Turner, R-Ohio. He also called on the White House to brief him on the Chinese balloon shot down Saturday. "What's interesting is that the moment this balloon became public, I got a notice not from the administration that I'm going to get a briefing on this balloon, but they have to rush to Congress now to talk to us about Donald Trump's documents," he said, adding that a discussion of Biden and Pence's records was expected to be included. Three people familiar with the matter confirmed a congressional briefing was offered to the "Gang of Eight" — the Republican and Democratic leaders of the House and Senate and of both intelligence committees. The people spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss intelligence matters. Any briefing is not expected to include direct access to the documents that were seized, the people said. Sens. Mark Warner, D-Va., and Marco Rubio, R-Fla., the chairman and vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, asked for that access in a letter last week to Attorney

General Merrick Garland and Director of National Intelligence Avril Haines. The director of national intelligence's office and Department of Justice both declined to comment Sunday. The Justice Department says roughly 300 documents with classified markings, including at the top-secret level, have been recovered from Mar-a-Lago after being taken there after Trump left the White House. Last August, FBI agents executed a search warrant at the property after developing evidence that led them to believe that Trump and his representatives had not returned all the classified files. The material taken at that time included roughly 13,000 government documents, including about 100 bearing classification markings. Some of the material was so sensitive that Justice Department prosecutors and FBI counterintelligence investigators required additional security clearances to review them. A special counsel, Jack Smith, is investigating whether to bring charges against Trump or anyone else related to the documents. Prosecutors have revealed that they are investigating possible violations of multiple criminal statutes, including willful retention of national defense information and obstruction. A grand jury in Washington has been hearing evidence and federal prosecutors have interviewed multiple Trump associates. It is not clear how much longer that investigation will last. Trump has claimed that the materials were declassified and that he had the power to do so just by thinking about it, though his lawyers have not repeated that claim. They tried to have an independent arbiter conduct an outside review of the documents, though a federal appeals court late last year ended that work and said Trump's team was not entitled to that assessment. □



**Live Entertainment at 8PM**



**MON Latin Dance Show**



**TUE Steelpan Music**



**WED Cultural Dance Show**



**THU Acrobatic Show**



**SUN Violin Show**



**Nightly Watershow 7:30pm - 8:30pm - 9:30pm**

Stores are open from Mon to Sat 10am to 10pm and Sun 5pm to 10pm  
[www.paseoherencia.com](http://www.paseoherencia.com)





# Biden's State of the Union to tout policy wins on economy

Continued from Front

The newly empowered GOP is itching to undo many of Biden's achievements and raising the specter of persistent investigations — including into the recent discoveries of classified documents from his time as vice president at his home and former office. "Jobs are up, wages are up, inflation is down, and COVID no longer controls our lives," Biden told the Democratic National Committee on Friday. "But now, the extreme MAGA Republicans in the House of Representatives have made it clear they intend to put it all at risk. They intend to destroy it." The president, meanwhile, is shifting his focus from legislating to implementing the massive infrastructure and climate bills passed in the last Congress — and to trying to make sure Americans credit him for the improvements. "These things don't sell themselves," Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said Sunday on NBC. "And it's one of the reasons I'm really looking forward to that State of the Union address. I will say that there have been so many accomplishments under this administration. It can be difficult to list them in a distilled way."



**President Joe Biden speaks at the Democratic National Committee winter meeting, Friday, Feb. 3, 2023, in Philadelphia. Biden will deliver his State of the Union address on Tuesday night.**  
Associated Press

While large-scale bipartisanship remains unlikely, Biden was set to reissue his 2022 appeal for Congress to get behind his "unity agenda" of actions to address the opioid epidemic, mental health, veterans' health and cancer. Biden will also call on lawmakers to responsibly raise the debt limit and keep the government funded. The president has remained opposed to negotiating to avoid default, while Republicans are pushing for unspecified deep spending cuts to reduce the deficit. Biden, according to two administration officials who requested anonymity to preview the speech, was also expected to discuss his decision to shoot down a suspected Chinese surveil-

lance balloon Saturday, as part of a broader section on countering China's more assertive economic and military actions around the world. His address last year came just days after Russia launched its invasion of Ukraine and many in the West doubted Kyiv's ability to avoid a swift routing. Now the war is on the cusp of entering its second year, and under Biden the U.S. and allies have sent tens of billions of dollars in military and economic assistance to bolster Ukraine's defenses. Now the president must make the case — both at home and abroad — for sustaining that coalition as the war drags on. Meanwhile, inflation, which rose precipitously last year in part because of soaring

energy prices from the war, has begun to ease. Still, only a quarter of U.S. adults say things in the country are headed in the right direction, according to a new poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research; about three-quarters say things are on the wrong track. Similarly, views of the national economy remain deeply negative, with 24% calling the national economy good and 76% calling it poor. Forty-one percent of Democrats and 8% of Republicans call the economy good. The figures are similar to when Biden delivered his State of the Union address last year, but an adjustment from Biden's first year in office when Americans were more optimistic; about half said they thought the country was headed in the right direction when the president took office. At the same time, 57% say their personal financial situation is good. That's unchanged since December but has eroded slightly since earlier last year. No less than 62% of Americans had called their personal financial situation good in AP-NORC polls conducted from late 2019 through spring of 2022. Two years after Jan. 6, 2021

attack on the Capitol by pro-Trump rioters, a protective fence was reinstalled Sunday around the Capitol ahead of Biden's address. After the speech, Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris, and his Cabinet plan to hold over 30 events in two days to drive the message home to the American people in their communities. Biden will visit Wisconsin to discuss job creation on Wednesday and on Thursday will be in Tampa, Florida to talk about his efforts to lower prescription drug costs and protect Social Security and Medicare. "During the State of the Union, President Biden will outline how the past two years has seen historic job growth, falling inflation, higher wages, and record investments coming back to America," the White House said. "The economic travel blitz showcases how the president's vision is creating jobs, rebuilding our infrastructure, lowering costs for families, tackling climate change, investing in our future and delivering for families too often left behind." The travel follows Biden's stops last week in Baltimore, New York and Philadelphia focused on rail and water infrastructure projects funded by the 2021 bipartisan infrastructure law. □

## Ride at Iowa amusement park where boy died will never reopen

**ALTOONA, Iowa (AP)** — The ride at an Iowa amusement park where an 11-year-old boy was killed in 2021 will never reopen, the park's owners said. Bill Lentz, Adventureland's general manager, said in a letter posted on the park's website Friday that after spending months reviewing the safety of the Raging River ride, officials decided to close it permanently. "The decision comes after months of examination of the ride, working closely with its manufacturer to identify what enhancements each would

need to meet our operating standards," Lentz said in the statement. "Based upon that review, the best path forward is to close Raging River, and focus on enhancing the Adventureland experience elsewhere." Michael Jaramillo died and his brother and father were injured on July 3, 2021, after their raft overturned and trapped them in the water. The ride uses a conveyor belt to move large circular rafts through rapids. The park was sold to Palace Entertainment in the wake of the boy's death and Lentz took over as

general manager in 2022. Palace Entertainment is the U.S. subsidiary of Madrid-based Parques Reunidos. The Jaramillo family filed a lawsuit against Adventureland and its former owners in June 2022, and a separate claim against the state of Iowa in September 2022. That lawsuit is tentatively set for trial next spring. The former owners have maintained that the ride was safe. State officials cited the park in November 2021 for 17 safety violations related to Jaramillo's death. The Des Moines Register reports that the violations included



**Remembrances of Michael Jaramillo, the 11-year-old killed on the Raging River ride at Adventureland, are seen as family and friends gather for his funeral at Corinthian Baptist Church, July 17, 2021, in Des Moines, Iowa.**

Associated Press

using Flex Seal instead of approved patches to fix leaks in rafts' flotation bladders, which keep the ride afloat, and not adequately documenting or testing repairs. In 2016, seasonal employee Steve Booher, 68,

was killed after he fell when the ride began moving unexpectedly. He became wedged between a boat and a concrete sidewalk, and his head was repeatedly rammed. He died days later. □



## Judge: Banning guns for marijuana users unconstitutional

**OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)** — A federal judge in Oklahoma has ruled that a federal law prohibiting people who use marijuana from owning firearms is unconstitutional, the latest challenge to firearms regulations after the U.S. Supreme Court's conservative majority set new standards for reviewing the nation's gun laws.

Lawyers for Jared Michael Harrison had argued that their client's Second Amendment right to bear arms was being violated by a federal law that makes it illegal for "unlawful users or addicts of controlled substances" to possess firearms. Harrison had been charged after being arrested by police in Lawton, Oklahoma, in May 2022 following a traffic stop. During a search of his car, police found a loaded revolver as well as marijuana. Harrison told police he had been on his way to work at a medical marijuana dispensary, but that he did not have a state-issued medical-marijuana card.

His lawyers had argued the portion of federal firearms law focused on drug users or addicts was not consistent with the nation's historical tradition of firearm



A sales associate arranges guns on display at Burbank Ammo & Guns in Burbank, Calif., June 23, 2022.

Associated Press

regulation, echoing what the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled last year in a case known as *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen*. That case set new standards for interpreting the Second Amendment. Federal prosecutors had argued that the portion of the law focused on drug users is "consistent with a longstanding historical tradition in America of disarming presumptively risky per-

sons, namely, felons, the mentally ill, and the intoxicated."

U.S. District Judge Patrick Wyrick in Oklahoma City agreed with Harrison's lawyers, ruling on Friday that federal prosecutors' arguments that Harrison's status as a marijuana user "justifies stripping him of his fundamental right to possess a firearm ... is not a constitutionally permissible means of disarming Harrison."

"But the mere use of marijuana carries none of the characteristics that the Nation's history and tradition of firearms regulation supports," said Wyrick, who was appointed by former President Donald Trump. In his ruling, Wyrick highlighted that under Oklahoma law, marijuana can be bought legally at more than 2,000 store fronts in the state.

Attorneys for Harrison, as

well as the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Oklahoma, which was prosecuting the case, did not immediately return emails seeking comment Sunday.

The ruling came a day after a three-judge panel of the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans on Thursday ruled that the government can't stop people who have domestic violence restraining orders against them from owning guns. The panel referenced the *Bruen* decision in its ruling. Two of the three judges on the panel are Trump appointees.

The Justice Department has said it will seek further review of the appeals court's decision.

In September, a federal judge in Midland, Texas, ruled that a firearms law that bans those under felony indictment from buying guns is unconstitutional. In that case, U.S. District Judge David Counts, also a Trump appointee, also echoed the Supreme Court's language in the *Bruen* case, saying there was "little evidence" the ban related to being under indictment "aligns with this Nation's historical tradition." □



Spring Point Ledge Light is surrounded by arctic sea smoke while emissions from the Wyman Power plant, background, are blown horizontal by the fierce wind, Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023, in South Portland, Maine. The morning temperature was about -10 degrees Fahrenheit.

By **MARK PRATT**  
Associated Press

**BOSTON (AP)** — The Arctic air that descended on the Northeast on Saturday brought dangerously cold sub-zero temperatures and wind chills to the region,

Associated Press

including a record-setting wind chill of minus 108 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 78 C) on the summit of Mount Washington in New Hampshire.

Temperatures got so low that authorities in Massa-

## Mount Washington experiences record-setting wind chill

achusetts took the unusual step of keeping the South Station transit hub open overnight so homeless people had a safe place to sleep. Several cities in the Northeast set or tied record low temperatures for the date, while the high winds brought down a tree branch on a car in western Massachusetts killing an infant.

"I can't remember it being this cold, not since 2015," said Gin Koo, 36, wrapped up in three shirts and a down jacket, as well as a hat and a hood, as he walked his Boston terrier, Bee, in Boston on Saturday morning. Even Bee, wrapped in a doggie coat, shivered. "I wouldn't go out

if I didn't have to."

Paul Butler, 45, who has been homeless since he was evicted in December 2021, took shelter in South Station.

"This is the coldest I ever, ever remember, and I worked the door at a bunch of clubs for 15 years," said the former Marine.

The Arctic air reached the region just as a rapid cyclogenesis developed over Labrador and Newfoundland, churning up powerful winds, meteorologist Donald Dumont at the National Weather Service in Gray, Maine, said Friday, explaining the temperature plunge.

A cyclogenesis refers to an intensification of a cy-

clone or low-pressure storm system. The Mount Washington Observatory at the peak of the Northeast's highest mountain, famous for its extreme weather conditions, also recorded an actual temperature of minus 47 (minus 44 C), tying an observatory record set in 1934 and a wind gust of 127 mph (204 kmh).

Across the rest of the region, wind chills — the combined effect of wind and cold air on exposed skin — dropped to as low as minus 45 to minus 50 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 43 to minus 45 C), the National Weather Service reported. The current method to measure wind chill has been used since 2001. □



## It wasn't me: Ex-UK PM Truss blames 'system' for her failure

By JILL LAWLESS  
Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — Former British Prime Minister Liz Truss says her failure wasn't her fault. Truss on Sunday blamed a "powerful economic establishment" and internal Conservative Party opposition for the rapid collapse of her government, and said she still believes her tax-cutting policies were the right ones. Britain's shortest-serving prime minister resigned in October, six weeks into the job, after her inaugural budget plan sparked market mayhem.

Breaking her post-premier-ship silence in the Sunday Telegraph newspaper, Truss said she underestimated the resistance her free-market policies would face from "the system."

"I am not claiming to be blameless in what happened, but fundamentally I was not given a realistic chance to enact my policies by a very powerful economic establishment, coupled with a lack of political support," she wrote.

Truss took office in September after winning a Conservative Party leadership contest to replace scandal-tarnished Prime Minister Boris Johnson. Her promise to spur economic growth with tax cuts and deregulation enthused Tory members, but a budget containing 45 billion pounds



Outgoing British Prime Minister Liz Truss speaks outside Downing Street in London, on Oct. 25, 2022.

Associated Press

(\$54 billion) in unfunded tax cuts — including an income tax reduction for the highest earners — spooked the financial markets.

The prospect of more debt and higher inflation sent the pound plunging to its lowest-ever level against the U.S. dollar. The cost of government borrowing soared and the Bank of England had to step in to prop up the bond market and prevent a wider economic meltdown that threatened people's pensions.

Truss first fired her Treasury chief, Kwasi Kwarteng, then quit herself.

In the article, she claimed her government was made a "scapegoat" for long-brewing instability with liability driven investments, a form of bond market derivatives in which pension funds are heavily invested, Truss said she still believed

her low-tax, small-state agenda "was the right thing to do, but the forces against it were too great." She claimed "large parts of the media and the wider public sphere" had a left-wing slant, and criticized U.S. President Joe Biden for calling her plan a mistake. Critics accused the former prime minister of rewriting history and using the populist playbook by blaming the system for her own failures. Gavin Barwell, a Conservative who was chief of staff to ex-Prime Minister Theresa May, tweeted at Truss: "You were brought down because in a matter of weeks you lost the confidence of the financial markets, the electorate and your own MPs. During a profound cost of living crisis, you thought it was a priority to cut tax for the richest people in the country."

Cambridge University economist Charles Read said he warned the Treasury in early September that a sudden economic stimulus package "risked financial instability and a financial crisis."

"The mini-budget crisis last autumn was predictable, preventable & avoidable," he wrote on Twitter.

Truss' article could put more pressure on Prime Minister Rishi Sunak, a former Treasury chief installed by the Conservatives to calm the markets and steady the government after her departure.

Sunak says tackling double-digit inflation is more important than immediate tax cuts. But with the economy still struggling — the International Monetary Fund says Britain will be the only major economy to contract this year — and the party lagging well behind Labour in opinion polls, some Conservative lawmakers are getting restless.

A faction inside the party is still pushing immediate tax cuts, despite the damage done by "Trussonomics."

Lawmaker Jake Berry, a former party chair, said that while Truss' agenda "wasn't delivered in the right way," she had the right instincts.

"Her point of, we need to lower taxes, we need to create a growing economy, that's what people want," Berry told the BBC. □

## Chile wildfires spread amid heat wave as death toll rises

**SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)** — Chile extended an emergency declaration to yet another region on Saturday as firefighters struggled to control dozens of raging wildfires that have claimed at least 22 lives amid a scorching heat wave that has broken records.

The government declared a state of catastrophe in the La Araucanía region, which is south of Ñuble and Biobío, two central-southern regions where the emergency declaration had already been issued. The measure allows for greater cooperation with the military.

At least 22 people have died in connection to the fires and 554 have been injured, including 16 in serious condition, according to Interior Minister Carolina Tohá. The death toll is likely to rise as Tohá said there are unconfirmed reports of at least 10 people missing. Sixteen of the deaths took place in Biobío, five in La Araucanía and one in Ñuble.

The deaths included a Bolivian pilot who died when a helicopter that was helping combat the flames crashed in La Araucanía. A Chilean mechanic also died in the crash.



Charred trees stand in an area destroyed by wildfires in Santa Juana, Chile, Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023.

Associated Press

Over the past week, fires have burned through an area equivalent to what is

usually burned in an entire year, Tohá said in a news conference. □

## ARUBA OSTRICH FARM



## MUST VISIT!

- Fun Tour
- The best Shaved Ice
- Delicious lunch
- Fresh Fruits Smoothies
- Ice cold beer
- Unique local art Shop
- #1 Farmers Market

(Every 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month)



**Restaurant**  
**RESERVATIONS IS RECOMMENDED**  
due to preparations and limited availability on ostrich/emu eggs.  
[info@arubaostrichfarm.com](mailto:info@arubaostrichfarm.com)

or Tel: 585-9630

**OPEN DAILY:**  
10:00 – 4:00 pm  
**NO RESERVATION**  
**NECESSARY FOR TOURS**



# Pope, Anglican, Presbyterian leaders denounce anti-gay laws

By NICOLE WINFIELD

Associated Press

**ABOARD THE PAPAL PLANE (AP)** — Pope Francis, the head of the Anglican Communion and top Presbyterian minister together denounced the criminalization of homosexuality on Sunday and said gay people should be welcomed by their churches.

The three Christian leaders spoke out on LGBTQ rights during an unprecedented joint airborne news conference returning home from South Sudan, where they took part in a three-day ecumenical pilgrimage to try to nudge the young country's peace process forward.

They were asked about Francis' recent comments to The Associated Press, in which he declared that laws that criminalize gay people were "unjust" and that "being homosexual is not a crime."

South Sudan is one of 67 countries that criminalizes homosexuality, 11 of them with the death penalty. LGBTQ advocates say even where such laws are not applied, they contribute to a climate of harassment, discrimination and violence.

Francis referred his Jan.



The Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby, right, Pope Francis, left, and the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland Iain Green Shields meet the journalists during an airborne press conference aboard the airplane directed to Rome, at the end of his pastoral visit to Congo and South Sudan, Sunday, Feb. 5, 2023.

Associated Press

24 comments to the AP and repeated that such laws are "unjust." He also repeated previous comments that parents should never throw their gay children out of the house.

"To condemn someone like this is a sin," he said. "Criminalizing people with homosexual tendencies is an injustice."

"People with homosexual tendencies are children of God. God Loves them. God

accompanies them," he added. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, recalled that LGBTQ rights were very much on the current agenda of the Church of England, and said he would quote the pope's own words when the issue is discussed at the church's upcoming General Synod. "I wish I had spoken as eloquently and clearly as the pope. I entirely agree with every word he said," Welby

said.

Recently, the Church of England decided to allow blessings for same-sex civil marriages but said same-sex couples could not marry in its churches. The Vatican forbids both gay marriage and blessings for same-sex unions.

Welby told reporters that the issue of criminalization had been taken up at two previous Lambeth Conferences of the broader An-

glican Communion, which includes churches in Africa and the Middle East where such anti-gay laws are most common and often enjoy support by conservative bishops.

The broader Lambeth Conference has come out twice opposing criminalization, "But it has not really changed many people's minds," Welby said.

The Rt. Rev. Iain Green Shields, the Presbyterian moderator of the Church of Scotland who also participated in the pilgrimage and news conference, offered an observation.

"There is nowhere in my reading of the four Gospels where I see Jesus turning anyone away," he said. "There is nowhere in the four Gospels where I see anything other than Jesus expressing love to whom-ever he meets."

"And as Christians, that is the only expression that we can possibly give to any human being, in any circumstance."

The Church of Scotland allows same-sex marriages. Catholic teaching holds that gay people must be treated with dignity and respect, but that homosexual acts are "intrinsically disordered." □



Demonstrators hold placards and a poster with a picture of Tiba Ali, a YouTube star who was recently killed by her father, in Diwaniya, Iraq, Sunday, Feb. 5, 2023.

Associated Press

By ALI ABDUL-HASSAN and SALAR SALIM

Associated Press

**DIWANIYAH, Iraq (AP)** — Dozens of Iraqi protesters gathered Sunday to decry the so-called "honor killing" of a 22-year-old YouTube star who was allegedly

strangled by her father, adding fuel to calls for legal reforms protecting women. Interior Ministry spokesman Saad Maan on Friday announced that Tiba Ali was killed Jan. 31 in the central city of Diwaniyah by her father, who then turned him-

## Iraqis protest gender violence after YouTube star killed

self in to the police. Reports say the father strangled Ali at night while she was asleep.

The so-called "honor killing" was met with condemnation from women's rights groups and residents, who sounded the alarm on violence against women in Iraq and the need to reform legislation to impose harsher punishments on perpetrators.

The protesters held banners condemning the killing and demanding legislative reforms. "There is no honor in the crime of killing women," one placard read.

"Anyone who wants to get rid of a woman accuses her of disgracing her dig-

nity and kills her," protester Israa al-Salman told The Associated Press, who also wanted Ali's father executed.

Article 41 of the country's penal code allows husbands to "discipline" their wives, which includes beatings.

Meanwhile, Article 409 reduces murder sentences for men who kill or permanently impair their wives or female relatives because of adultery to up to three years in prison.

Rosa al-Hamid, an activist with civil society group the Organization for Women's Freedom in Iraq urged the authorities to pass a long-stalled draft law against

domestic violence that has been lingering in Iraqi Parliament since 2019.

"Tiba was killed by her father under tribal justifications that are unacceptable," she told the AP.

Amnesty International Deputy Director for the Middle East and North Africa Aya Majzoub said in a press statement said that violence against women and girls in Iraq will continue until "Iraqi authorities adopt robust legislation to protect women and girls from gender-based violence."

Diwaniyah's city police department and hospital administration declined to comment to the AP about Ali's death. □





**Pinchos Grill & Bar**

Open Everyday 5PM - 11PM

Spectacular setting - all tables over the water

Bar snacks & drinks available

Reservations recommended

583-2666  
www.pinchosaruba.com  
reservations@pinchosgrillaruba.com

Live Music Fri - Sat & Sun

TRAVELER'S CHOICE  
tripadvisor

Follow Us

## 'Pa Nos Muchanan' Foundation provides information for child care during the carnaval season

**(Oranjestad)—As usual during the carnaval season, different foundations are at work to bring awareness to the public, especially parents, about child care during the festivities. The 'Pa Nos Muchanan' (For Our Children) Foundation (FPNM) works tirelessly the whole year to help children, and highlights important information about child care during the carnaval season.**

Natasha Gilkes, director at FPNM, explained during a press conference that in light of the fact that carnaval had already started and that not only adults participate in festivities, but children as well, there are some points to underline in order to secure the safety of children during parades and carnaval activities.

Firstly, Gilkes points out, it is extremely important to consider if the carnaval activities are even appropriate for children. For example, activities that go on in the late night hours, or those that take place during the day, but are specifically for adults. FPNM recommends leaving the children preferably with another respon-

sible adult, either at home or daycare.

FPNM has a list of different available daycares that offer childcare during carnaval activities. Gilkes remarks that this list is just a recommendation and it is the parents' responsibility to visit the daycares, ask questions, observe, and then make a decision.

She added that they also provide another list with important factors to keep in mind when choosing a daycare, so that this can make the process easier.

Gilkes explained that they recommend children participate in carnaval at the age of 4 or 5, but not without asking if the child wants to participate. If in case they don't, it is then preferable to leave the child with a responsible adult, or that the parents' stay home with the child and maybe do other fun activities.

If the child wants to participate, Gilkes said that they have another list with focus points on what to do to make the festivities fun, but safe for the child.

The focus point are as follows: From the moment of leaving the household, apply sun block on the child's skin, and re-apply throughout the duration of the activity; dress the child with a hat or cap to protect their head and face; dress the child with loose clothing, preferably of cotton material with light colors to avoid too much heat. Lastly, provide the child with comfortable shoes.

Gilkes recommends packing a parasol, as it is not always possible to find a standing spot in the shade. In the case that parents do not have a trailer or tent, they must walk with a parasol or look for a spot in the shade, so that the child will not be directly exposed to the sun.

She added that it is important to also stay hydrated. Water and/or juice is recommended so the child can stay refreshed and hydrated. It is also important to keep in mind to not take any food that could go bad fast.

Another point that Gilkes underlines is to not lose the child during the parade. Unfortunately, this is something that happens every year, and this can be very damaging to the child. "Imagine a 6-year-old child who lost their parents. We know that parades are filled with people, so it is easy to lose sight of your child. To prevent this, please always be attentive to your child's whereabouts," she expressed.

FPNM recommends to also stick a paper on the child's



clothes with the child's full name, names of the parents or caretaker, and telephone number for direct contact with the parents, in case the child is lost and is later found by the police or other people. Gilkes highlights that it is important to train the child to check their surroundings when they are lost, in order to ask for help.

In the case that the child goes to watch the parade, it is important that the child stands behind the barricades, as there are trucks, smoke and other moving vehicles on the other side, which can also affect the child's health.

In terms of loud noises, she reminds people that Qouta Club Aruba has worked for many years to raise awareness on wearing earplugs during carnaval festivities.

"Please make sure your child has earplugs in. Qouta Club also sells these during parades," she mentioned.

She also added that the parents must teach their children how and why to wear earplugs, as it may be their first carnaval and the earplugs may be annoying. "It's important to talk to them, explain why they have to wear earplugs in order to protect their hearing."

Lastly, Gilkes informs that FPNM has a campaign every year, where interested parents or care takers can visit their office and get their folder "Carnaval and Children." In this folder, there are different points to pay close attention to in order to ensure the safety of children. In addition to the folder, parents will also receive a sun block. □







**ORANJESTAD – On February 2, 2023, the Minister of Justice and Social Affairs, Mr. Rocco Tjon, signed an agreement with ELMAR N.V. to install surveillance cameras along the carnival route in San Nicolas and Oranjestad.**

It is an innovative pilot project with added value for the police force.

The Carnival season is always busy for the police force. Therefore it is essential to facilitate their work with surveillance cameras. It will give the camera room operators the advantage to dispatch the police officers efficiently to areas where disturbances happen.

## Agreement signed with ELMAR N.V. to install surveillance cameras on carnival routes

These surveillance cameras will add an extra layer of security to spectators and carnival participants during and after the parades. Such pilot projects require the input of other ministries as well. The Minister of Justice is very grateful to the Minister of Energy, Mr. Glenbert Croes, for his support.

The first phase of the surveillance camera project is ongoing near the beach side of the hotel strip. Recently a Ministerial decree was signed for a similar surveillance camera project in the high-rise hot zone and



on the main street of San Nicolas. Next week, they will install these surveillance cameras in San Nicolas.

Once ready, the authorities will evaluate these projects and based on the results, will start with phase 4,

which includes surveillance cameras on public roads for extra safety.

The Minister congratulates both Elmar N.V. and the police department for this project. □

## Aruba to me

**ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.**

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is ..... Send

your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submit-

ting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes with-



out compensation. Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again. For today we received a lovely message from Carlos Hernandez, Marilyn Hernandez and their daughter Isanet Hernandez from The Dominican Republic living in New Jersey, United States.

They wrote to us saying: "Aruba to me is an unforgettable experience with the loveliest people. Our first visit has been wonderful and we fell in love with the island. The climate combined with its people of Aruba make a perfect and attractive combination for it's visitors. The food

has an excellent flavor and we enjoyed it very much.

Aruba is a beautiful place to visit and to vacation at.

I want to tell everyone who is reading this to give themselves and their loved ones the opportunity to visit Aruba, because it will be an unforgettable experience for their lives.

The Island has wonderful beaches that each have their unique touch. The safety of the island makes it easy for you to wander around the island confidently and safely."

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! □



**BUCUTI & TARA**  
BEACH RESORT · ARUBA

IF YOU ARE A PASSIONATE HOSPITALITY PROFESSIONAL,  
EAGER TO JOIN A WINNING TEAM,  
TOP 25 RESORTS IN THE WORLD ON TRIPADVISOR,  
ALSO THE FIRST CARBON NEUTRAL RESORT IN THE CARIBBEAN

## WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOU

<b>F&amp;B SUPERVISOR</b>	<b>SOUS CHEF</b>	<b>CONCIERGE/ FRONT DESK AGENT FLUENT IN ITALIAN AND/OR GERMAN</b>
<b>BARTENDER</b>	<b>COOK</b>	<b>TECHNICIAN</b>
<b>BEACH ATTENDANT</b>	<b>BREAKFAST ATTENDANT (PART-TIME)</b>	<b>ENGINEERING ADMINISTRATOR (PART-TIME)</b>

**EXCELLENT BENEFITS**

- ATTRACTIVE SALARIES WITH BONUS OPPORTUNITIES
- 5-DAY WORKWEEK
- UP TO 27 VACATION DAYS (BASED ON YEARS OF SERVICE)
- HEALTH DISABILITIES AND LIFE INSURANCE
- DENTAL AND VISION INSURANCES
- SAVINGS & LOANS PROGRAM
- EMPLOYEE DISCOUNT AT TARA ECO SUPPLIES AND MAJOR LOCAL SUPERMARKET

**APPLY ONLINE AT [WWW.BUCUTI.COM/CAREERS](http://WWW.BUCUTI.COM/CAREERS)**





**playa linda**  
beach resort

**YOUR PLACE IN THE SUN**

RESORT OWNERSHIP AT  
ARUBA FINEST TIMESHARE RESORT

Playa Linda Sales Office: Mon-Fri (8am-4pm)  
sales@playalinda.com or call (+297)-586-1000  
Toll free number: 1-888-281-4544

## Financial aid for the primary sector

**ORANJESTAD - The Ministry of Transport, Integrity, Nature and Elderly Affairs, together with the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Communication, and Sustainable Development, signed an agreement with Qredits Microfinanciering to launch Agri-Loan.**

For farmers, the challenges to starting an agricultural business depend on the climate, land, knowledge, finance, and production cost. Minister Ursell Arends

and Minister Geoffrey Wever see the opportunities to elevate the agriculture sector and make this a vital part of our economy as a food and essential product provider for our community. Therefore they developed the Agri-Loan system to address the financial challenges of farmers and provide incentives to contribute to the primary sector step by step.

The Agri-Loan will create a 3 million florins fund for local farmers. This fund provides

individual loans of Awg. 5000,- to Awg. 200.000,- at a reduced interest rate of 2%. Qredits Microfinanciering will use Aruba as a model for future projects within the Dutch Kingdom. In addition to Agri-Loan, Qredits has collaborated with the Government of Aruba to launch Agri-Business Academy. The course focuses on business management and financial plans adapted specifically to local farmers. There will be an opportunity for farmers to register



for this course.

The Government of Aruba is very grateful to Qredits and the entire team for

their collaboration in making these funds available and for contributing to the agriculture sector and our future food safety. □

## Task Force installed for improving air travel in the Dutch Caribbean *Shaping and implementing the shared vision of the DCCA*

**ORANJESTAD - On November 7, 2022, the historic milestone of signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Dutch Caribbean islands, the Netherlands, the six airports of the Dutch Caribbean and the Dutch Association of Airports was celebrated.**

This MOU formalizes a commitment of this partnership to explore and establish affordable, efficient, and sustainable air connectivity between Curacao, Aruba, St. Maarten, Bonaire, St. Eustatius, and Saba and, more specifically, to explore and stimulate the use of emission-free powered flights to operate the aforementioned air connectivity.

### DCCA Task Force

As agreed in the MOU, all CEO's of the DCCA (Dutch Cooperation of Caribbean Airports) recently determined the constellation of the Task Force. This Task Force will be tasked with developing a Joint Strategic Plan (JSP) for improving the interisland connectivity.



The Task Force will include aviation experts and professionals with at its core Mrs. Marieke Smit (Royal Schiphol Group) as Program Manager, Mrs. Suzy Kartokromo (St. Maarten Airport) as assistant Program Manager, Mrs. JoAnne Meaux-Arends (Aruba Airport) and Mrs. Peggy Croes (Curacao Airport), both for business development, Mrs. Christine Driesen (Bonaire Airport) for airport infrastructure/charging stations and standards, and Mr. Vishal Oedjaghir (St. Eustatius Airport/Saba Airport) as PSO expert. As

such all islands of the Dutch Kingdom are duly represented and will be working on reaching the end goal of the MOU signed back in November of 2022.

Task Force deliverables Before the end of 2023, this Task Force will deliver a Joint Strategic Plan with, besides a clear indication how to reach the end goal of a more affordable, efficient and sustainable interisland connectivity network with a concrete timeline and milestones, the following deliverables:

1. The feasibility and establishment of an interisland

innovation center for sustainable aviation, to stimulate and facilitate the use of zero emission powered flights for air connectivity between these islands;

2. Possibilities, means and measures to achieve a smooth, seamless and efficient flow of passengers on interisland flights at the airports of the CAS and BES islands, including easing the entry/exit requirements by use of biometrics and digital identification technological advancements or otherwise;

3. Recommendations on necessary changes of laws, regulations and policy per-

taining to the end goal;

4. Recommendations on how to make interisland travel more affordable for the public.

The progress of the Task Force will be overseen by a Progress Committee, which will consist of the Kingdom Countries Aviation Steering Group ('Regiegroep Luchtvaart voor de Koninkrijkslanden') and the CEO's of the DCCA airports. The Dutch Civil Airports Association ('Nederlandse Vereniging van Luchthavens') will also appoint a representative in the Progress Committee.

Joost Meijs, CEO of Aruba Airport Authority N.V. and chairman of the DCCA: "It is great to see that collectively we have been able to define a strong Task Force with aviation professionals from the Caribbean and international world. I am convinced that together and with the support of all islands and countries of the Dutch Kingdom we will improve the interisland connectivity in all aspects". □



# Today Is Going To Be A Good Day



Here's why: Aruba Today collected some things to do BEYOND the beach. Yes, we know. Aruba, located 15 miles north of Venezuela in the warm waters of the southern Caribbean, is home to beautiful white-sand beaches, 82-degree days, and thus ideal for the perfect beach day. But we are also blessed with some of the warmest people in the world and our island is 19.6 miles long and 6 miles across, with a total area of 70 square miles. Bit more to discover than the white stretch on the coastline we say. Let's mention some of

these hidden gems.

### Nature Calls

The Arikok National park is worth the ride. We love the hikes that are guided by the park's rangers whose job is to maintain trails and protect natural resources. The flora and fauna are beautiful and the historical sites tell you about the island's indigenous roots. The guided tours are even free of charge. If you are not up to walking, you can drive through the park, one way or another this park is a great place to spend an entire day. Cruising

through the landscape you end up at some of the most stunning beaches like Dos Playa or Daimara Beach. In Total the park consists of 7907 acres protected nature with a richness of animals living in it. The Aruban whiptail lizard (cododo), Aruban cat eye snake (santanero) and endangered rattle snake (cascabel) are just some of them, you can also admire these close in the park's Visitors' Center. For more information, visit the website [www.arubanationalpark.org](http://www.arubanationalpark.org)

### The Lighthouse

No, you would not think of this as a hidden gem. The California Lighthouse is actually one of the most known highlights in Aruba and many repeated guests most probably took the ride uphill already. But, there is a significant change to this tower. Since September 2016 you can climb the top. In 2015 Stichting Monumentenfonds started the



restoration of the California Lighthouse. The project finished in September 2016 and the Lighthouse is now open for visitors to enjoy the beautiful view from the top. The construction of the California Lighthouse started in 1915. The name 'California' came from a vessel of the West India Company and Pacific Steamship Co. called 'California' that shipwrecked in the area in 1891. Therefore they came up with the idea of build-

ing a lighthouse that could indicate the island's eastern tip to ships with its light. [www.arubalighthouse.com](http://www.arubalighthouse.com) will give you more information.

### Kayak in the Mangroves

Mangel Halto at Savaneta is definitely a place not to miss out on. The beautiful beach with the natural mangroves is simply a beauty, but if you are into a more active way to enjoy the nature: take a kayak. While you are doing some workout -as it might get a little windy and rough-, you will see the island from a different perspective. You can even make a stop to do some snorkeling at the reef. Its fun, it's healthy and for sure something else. There are several companies that offer kayak tours, we had good experience with The Shack Kayak Tours Aruba, find them on Facebook. □





by Urvin Croes

Welcome at our table

Step inside our meticulously designed Chef's Table restaurant, located on scenic Eagle Beach, for a 12-course menu prepared in front of your very own eyes.

Taste sensational dishes made by the team led by Chef Urvin Croes, where they explore without boundaries and offer a dining experience you will never forget.



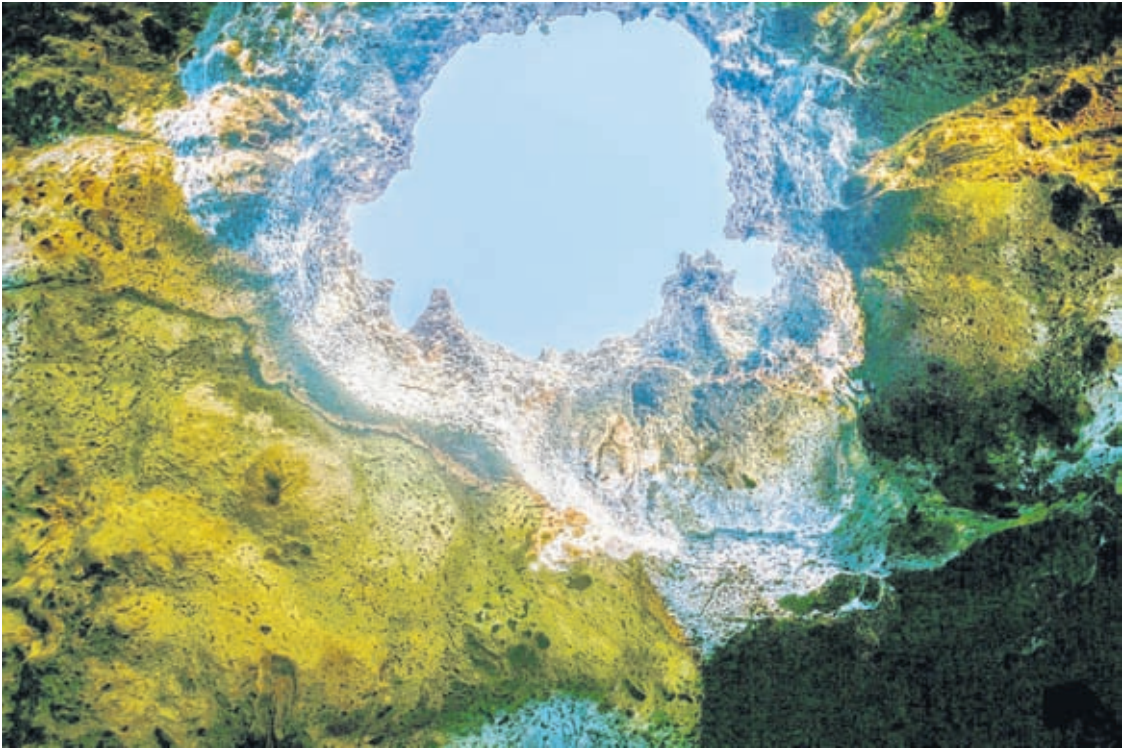


Chef Urvin Croes

Let us take you on a culinary journey



[www.infiniaruba.com](http://www.infiniaruba.com)





# Kiwanis Club of Palm Beach “Terrific Kids Awards” at Colegio San Hose high school

(Oranjestad)—Last Monday, January 30th, Kiwanis Club of Palm Beach gave out awards at Colegio San Hose high school. The award ceremony was attended by students and teachers who were a part of the project “Terrific Kids”.

Club president, Daniel Aguirre, along with members Ben King and Frank Hoevertsz, gave out awards for the letter ‘R’, which stands for “responsibility”. Terrific Kids is a project that promotes character growth, self-esteem and perseverance in the students. TERRIFIC is a monogram that stands for Thoughtful, Enthusiastic, Respectful, Responsible, Inclusive, Friendly, Inquisitive, and Capable. Students work with teachers to establish and execute goals related to the improvement of behavior, relationship with other students, assistance at school, and work at school. Every child that achieves these goals is recognized as a ‘Terrific Kid’.

Kiwanis Club of Palm Beach started this program in the Kiwanistic year of 2012-2013. This program started at Dominicus College high school and expanded to St. Fransiscus College and Colegio San Hose. Besides this program, they also ended the year with the program of “Terrific Teacher” at each school. This is to show appreciation and respect for the teachers.

Kiwanis Club of Palm Beach could not end the day without congratulating and awarding Colegio San Hose high school in relation to their 83rd anniversary.

Kiwanis of Palm Beach forms part of a global organization called “Kiwanis International”, which is a charity dedicated in providing service to the community with the main goal to make the world a better place, one child at a time. More information can be found on [www.facebook.com/kiwanispalmbeacharuba](https://www.facebook.com/kiwanispalmbeacharuba) or [www.kiwanis.org](https://www.kiwanis.org)



COLEGIO SAN HOSE		TERRIFIC KIDS		Planning Terrific	
		Siman:		Fecha:	
<b>T</b>	<b>Thoughtful</b> <i>Cu consideracion</i>	Siman 1	05 - 09 september 2022		
		Siman 2	12 - 16 september 2022		
		Siman 3	19 - 23 september 2022		
		Siman 4	dialuna - 26 di september: TERRIFIC WINNER		
<b>E</b>	<b>Enthusiastic</b> <i>Entusiasma</i>	Siman 1	10 - 14 oktober 2022		
		Siman 2	17 - 21 oktober 2022		
		Siman 3	24 - 28 oktober 2022		
		Siman 4	dialuna - 31 di oktober: TERRIFIC WINNER		
<b>R</b>	<b>Respectful</b> <i>Respetuoso</i>	Siman 1	07 - 11 november 2022		
		Siman 2	14 - 18 november 2022		
		Siman 3	21 - 25 november 2022		
		Siman 4	dialuna - 28 di november 2022: TERRIFIC WINNER		
<b>R</b>	<b>Responsible</b> <i>Responsabel</i>	Siman 1	09 - 13 januari 2023		
		Siman 2	16 - 20 januari 2023		
		Siman 3	23 - 27 januari 2023		
		Siman 4	dialuna - 30 di januari 2023: TERRIFIC WINNERS		
<b>I</b>	<b>Inclusive</b> <i>Inclusivo</i>	Siman 1	06 - 10 februari 2023		
		Siman 2	13 - 17 februari 2023		
		Siman 3	20 - 24 februari 2023		
		Siman 4	dialuna - 27 di februari 2023: TERRIFIC WINNERS		
<b>F</b>	<b>Friendly</b> <i>Amical</i>	Siman 1	06 - 10 maart 2023		
		Siman 2	13 - 17 maart 2023		
		Siman 3	20 - 24 maart 2023		
		Siman 4	dialuna - 27 di maart 2023: TERRIFIC WINNERS!		
<b>I</b>	<b>Inquisitive</b> <i>Curioso</i>	Siman 1	03 - 07 april 2023		
		Siman 2	17 - 21 april 2023		
		Siman 3	24 - 28 april 2023		
		Siman 4	dialuna - 8 di mei 2023: TERRIFIC WINNERS!		
<b>C</b>	<b>Capable</b> <i>Capaz</i>	Siman 1	15 mei - 19 mei 2023		
		Siman 2	22 - 26 mei 2023		
		Siman 3	29 mei - 2 juni 2023		
		Siman 4	dialuna - 5 di juni 2023: TERRIFIC WINNERS!		

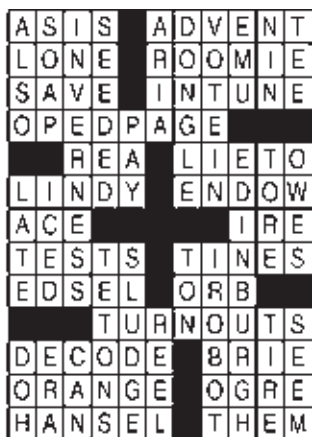




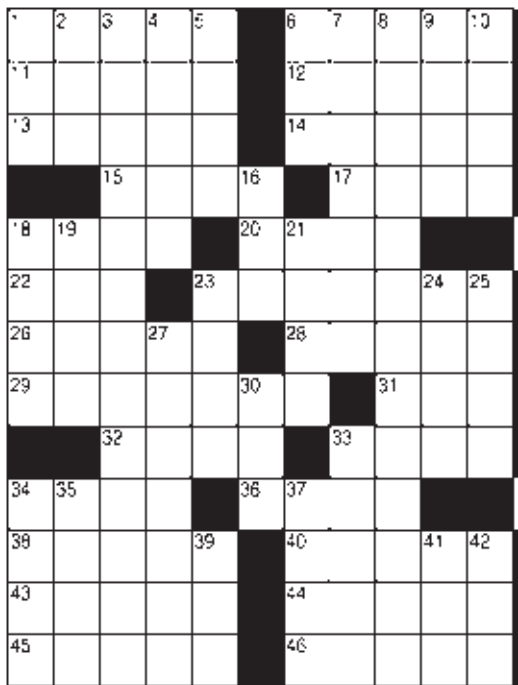
# CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 43 Go through many episodes
  - 1 Pluto's realm
  - 6 Stands
  - 11 Snowy wader
  - 12 Bakery come-on
  - 13 "— the Top"
  - 14 Pull out all the stops
  - 15 Wee bites
  - 17 Brooklyn team
  - 18 Quick jab
  - 20 Sub-standard
  - 22 Mathe-matician Lovelace
  - 23 Books in pews
  - 26 Vodka cocktail
  - 28 Useful skill
  - 29 Treason-ous fellow
  - 31 One or more
  - 32 Iditarod need
  - 33 Trojan War hero
  - 34 Bakery buy
  - 36 Pale tan
  - 38 Cus-tomary
  - 40 Skier's spot
- DOWN**
- 1 "You there!"
  - 2 Before today
  - 3 Blotto
  - 4 Spine-tingling
  - 5 Flight part
  - 6 Cloth scrap
  - 7 Some patches
  - 8 Very serious
  - 9 Give off
  - 10 Hangs low
  - 16 Bond, e.g.
  - 18 Accord
  - 19 Freshener target
  - 21 Poet Khayyám
  - 23 Table d'—
  - 24 Musical Horne
  - 25 River of 1-Across
  - 27 Odometer reading
  - 30 Praiseful poem
  - 33 Cheering loudly
  - 34 San Juan Hill setting
  - 35 Without repairs
  - 37 Staff symbol
  - 39 Headed
  - 41 Acquire
  - 42 Hosp. sections



Yesterday's answer



AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

1-6 CRYPTOQUOTE  
U A V N Q K M G N I I J X G N I X

N M K T U G K M K M U G X  
V N Q K L K I I J X F X D X D J X F X V.

V F. M X S M M  
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: ASK NOT WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR COUNTRY. ASK WHAT'S FOR LUNCH. — ORSON WELLES

## What's new for Medicare in 2023?



The healthcare.gov website is seen, on Dec. 14, 2021 in Fort Washington, Md.

Associated Press

By KATE ASHFORD  
of NerdWallet

A new year means changes to Medicare, including updated premiums and deductibles and sometimes big policy moves. In 2023, there's a little of everything: Some costs have gone down, others have increased, and there are some notable tweaks to how Medicare works.

Understanding what's new can help you get the most from your Medicare benefits. Here are some key 2023 updates, according to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

### PART B COSTS HAVE GONE DOWN

Medicare Part B is medical insurance that covers needs like doctor visits and durable medical equipment, such as wheelchairs and walkers. Everyone pays a Part B monthly premium, even people with Medicare Advantage plans. In 2023, the Part B standard premium is \$164.90 per month, down from \$170.10 per month in 2022. If you have a higher income, you may pay more. The Part B deductible dropped to \$226 in 2023, down from \$233 in 2022.

### PART A COSTS HAVE GONE UP

Medicare Part A is hospital insurance that covers inpatient stays in a hospital or skilled nursing facility. Most people don't pay a premium for Part A, but for those who do, those premiums increased to \$506 per month, up from \$499 in 2022. And the deductible for a hospital stay is \$1,600 in 2023 for each benefit period, up from \$1,556 in 2022.

Copays for inpatient stays in hospitals and skilled nursing facilities are also up. These are costs per benefit period:

- \$400 per day for days 61 to 90 in a hospital (up from \$389).
- \$800 per "lifetime reserve day" after day 90 in a hospital, up to a limit of 60 days in your lifetime (up from \$778).
- \$200 per day for days 21 to 100 in a skilled nursing facility (up from \$194.50).

### INSULIN COSTS ARE CAPPED

New this year, insulin costs are limited to \$35 a month for Medicare beneficiaries, and there is no deductible. Although the change went into effect Jan. 1, plans have a deadline of March to put this system in place. If you pay more than \$35 a month for insulin in January and/or February, ask your plan about reimbursement

for the coverage.

Starting in July, insulin used with a traditional pump covered by Medicare will also be capped at \$35 for a month's supply.

### MEDICARE START DATES HAVE SHIFTED

It used to be that for certain Medicare sign-up times, your coverage started two to three months later, which could cause gaps in health care. Starting this year, those dates have changed. If you sign up for Medicare the month of your 65th birthday or during the three months after, your coverage now starts the month after you sign up. Similarly, if you sign up for Medicare during the general enrollment period from Jan. 1 to March 31 each year, your coverage starts the next month. (It used to start July 1.)

### SHINGLES VACCINES ARE COVERED

All adult vaccines covered under Medicare Part D and recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices are now covered in full. This includes the shingles vaccine and the tetanus-diphtheria-whooping cough vaccine. Previously, these vaccines may have been subject to deductibles and cost sharing.

### MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLAN RATINGS ARE LOWER

Each year, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services gives every Medicare Advantage plan a star rating ranging from 1 to 5, with 5 being excellent. Overall, the average star rating for Medicare Advantage plans, weighted by enrollment, is 4.15 in 2023, down from 4.37 in 2022. This change doesn't mean quality has dropped.

In fact, last year's plan ratings were unusually high because of a pandemic policy that applied a natural disaster exception to all Medicare Advantage plans — instead of just the ones in areas affected by something like a hurricane or flood. As a result, plan ratings in 2022 were higher than usual, and this year's correction likely represents a truer rating of plans. □

**Honey Dolls**  
MASSAGE AND ESCORT SERVICE

**Beautiful Latin Girls**  
Pick-up & Delivery

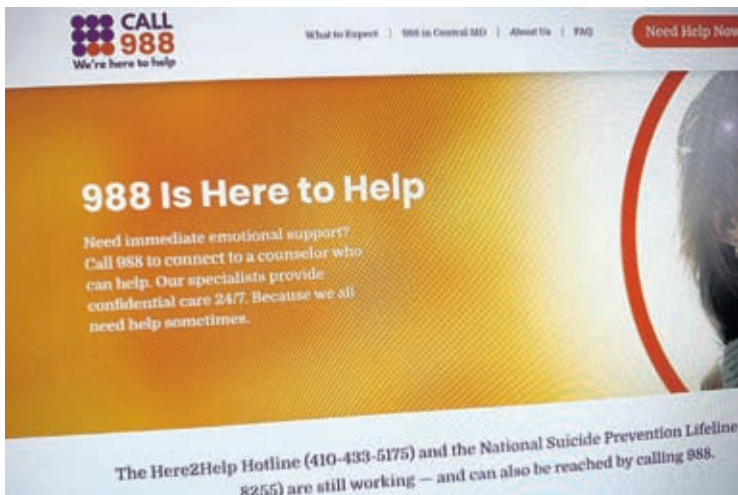
Serving Men - Couple - Women - All Genders

**+297 565-9535**

**WWW.PLEASUREINARUBA.COM**



## Feds say cyberattack caused suicide helpline's outage



Part of the 988helpline.org website is photographed Friday, Feb. 3, 2023. .

Associated Press

By **AMANDA SEITZ**  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — A cyberattack caused a nearly daylong outage of the nation's new 988 mental health helpline late last year, federal officials told The Associated Press Friday. Lawmakers are now calling for the federal agency that oversees the program to prevent future attacks. "On December 1, the voice calling functionality of the 988 Lifeline was rendered unavailable as a result of a cybersecurity incident," Danielle Bennett, a spokeswoman for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, said in an email. The attack occurred on the network for Intrado, the company that provides telecommunications services for the helpline. The

agency did not disclose details about who it believes launched the attack or what kind of cyberattack occurred. Intrado is working with a third-party assessor to investigate the incident and law enforcement agencies have been notified of the breach, SAMHSA said. The national 988 phone number, which can be reached by text, chat or voice calling, has become a lifeline for millions of Americans seeking help during a mental crisis, with millions of calls pouring in during the first six months since its launch in July. The system is designed to work similarly to 911 — it's a universal, easy-to-remember number that people can call in an emergency to reach a human who is working around the clock

in a local call center. Those who tried on Dec. 1 to reach the line for help with suicidal or depressive thoughts were instead greeted with a message that said the line is "experiencing a service outage." Text and chat services, however, remained available to those who needed help. The Federal Communications Commission said in December it was investigating the outage. Intrado said at the time that the company was "experiencing an incident that is impacting production across numerous systems" and is "working diligently to restore service." Intrado could not immediately be reached for comment Friday. Last week, Democrat Rep. Tony Cárdenas and Republican Rep. Jay Obernolte, both of California, introduced a bill calling for better coordination and

reporting around cyberattacks on the 988 system. "Even a few hours' outage of the national suicide hotline can cost American lives," Obernolte said in a press release introducing the bill. "It's critical that we mitigate the risks of future disruptions to the service and take steps to resolve cybersecurity vulnerabilities that could put the hotline at risk." □



### HEALTH

#### DOCTOR ON DUTY

##### Oranjestad

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm  
Tel. 527 4000

##### San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours  
Tel. 524 8833

#### PHARMACY ON DUTY

##### Oranjestad:

Central Tel. 585 1965

##### San Nicolas:

Seroe Preto Tel. 584 4833

#### OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850

Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002

Urgent Care 586 0448

Walk-In Doctor's Clinic

+297 588 0539

#### EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

#### TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

#### TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

#### AID FOUNDATIONS

FAVI- Visually Impaired  
Tel. 582 5051

Alcoholics Anonymous  
Tel. 736 2952

Narcotics Anonymous  
Tel. 583 8989

Fundacion Contra Violencia  
Relacional Tel. 583 5400

Centre for Diabetes  
Tel. 524 8888

Child Abuse Prevention  
Tel. 582 4433

Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

#### General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118



#### Editor

Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.  
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668  
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.  
Acc. #23951903  
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

#### Editors

Pilar Flores  
Richard Brooks  
Angenette Figuereo

#### Sales

Mark Gomes  
Sulaika Croes

#### Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

#### Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

#### Social / Website

Juan Luis Pinto

Weststraat 22  
T: 582-7800

E: news@arubatoday.com

W: www.arubatoday.com

@arubatoday



#### Marriott Aruba Surf Club PLATINUM SEASON

2 Bed Oceanfront	\$26,000
2 Bed Oceanside	\$18,500
2 Bed Ocean view	\$18,000
2 Bed Garden view	\$14,500
3 Bed Ocean view	\$28,000
WK 51 Ocean view	\$52,000
WK 52 Ocean View	\$55,000
WK 7 and 14 - all views	

#### Marriott Aruba Surf Club GOLD SEASON

2 Bed Oceanfront	\$14,000
2 Bed Oceanside	\$12,000
2 Bed Ocean view	\$8,500
2 Bed Garden view	\$6,000
3 Bed Ocean view	\$13,000

#### Marriott Aruba Ocean Club PLATINUM SEASON

2 Bed Oceanfront	\$32,000
2 Bed Ocean view	\$19,750
1 Bed Ocean front	\$16,500
1 Bed Ocean View	\$12,000

#### Marriott Aruba Ocean Club GOLD SEASON

2 Bed Oceanfront	\$14,000
2 Bed Ocean view	\$11,500
1 Bed oceanfront	\$9,000
1 Bed ocean View	\$6,500

\*\* Destination Points \$6.00 per point

#### La Cabana Beach Resort

1 Bed wk 39 \$4,500

**We are the #1  
Rental Timeshare  
agent for Aruba!**

We also RENT Aruba weeks for owners, Contact us to BUY, SELL or RENT any timeshare property.

**Contact:**  
stephanier@conciergerealty.com  
**888-888-2204 Ext 104**

**Website:**  
www.conciergerealty.com  
**Broker: Stephanie Reidel**  
www.facebook.com/groups/MarriottArubaSurf/  
www.facebook.com/groups/MarriottArubaOcean





# Amanda Serrano now undisputed champ, sets up Taylor rematch

By **BRIAN MAHONEY**

AP Sports Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Amanda Serrano finally has all four belts in her weight class.

Next, she can have revenge on Katie Taylor.

Serrano wore down a bloody Erika Cruz and won a unanimous decision Saturday night to become the undisputed featherweight champion and set up a rematch with fellow champ Taylor. They fought a thriller last year at Madison Square Garden and are expecting nothing less in Ireland on May 20.

"The last fight was an epic fight and I think the next one's going to be exactly the same," Taylor said.

Before that, Serrano got the better of a bout in which the fighters stood close and kept swinging throughout, emerging with the victory by scores of 98-92 on two cards and 97-93 on the other.

Cruz spent much of the fight wiping away blood from near her eyes after a clash of heads in the third round.

With the Mexican's light blue outfit turning progressively redder during the bout, perhaps Serrano was helped find the range with her combinations.

Afterward, promoter Eddie Hearn said Serrano (44-2-1, 30 KOs) and Taylor, who joined him in the ring, would meet again. Taylor, the undisputed champion at lightweight, edged Ser-



**Puerto Rico's Amanda Serrano, left, punches Mexico's Erika Cruz Hernandez during the second round of a women's featherweight championship boxing bout Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023 in New York. Serrano won the fight.**

Associated Press

rano by split decision last April 30 before a sold-out crowd in the first women's match to headline at Madison Square Garden.

Back in the Garden, this time in the smaller Hulu Theater, Serrano found herself with another tough test, but this one went her way. And she thinks her next match will, too.

"I've done enough and I will do more," Serrano said of the rematch.

The match with Taylor was one of the most significant in women's boxing history and lived up to the hype, earning numerous fight of the year awards.

Taylor won most of the late

rounds to pull it out, perhaps a little stronger with Serrano moving up two weight classes to fight her. Back at her preferred weight of 126, Serrano appeared to be the fresher fighter Saturday. She won the final eight rounds on one card and the last seven on another.

Cruz (15-2) held the fourth and final belt that Serrano needed to complete her goal of becoming the first undisputed champion from Puerto Rico, and made her work for it.

The fighters stood close — close enough to bang heads and open a cut on Cruz's forehead — and

traded combinations for what largely an even first few rounds. But the pace appeared to catch up with Cruz in the fifth, and fatigue might have been a factor when Serrano caught her with a good shot in the final seconds of the round. Serrano then accelerated the pressure in the sixth, the most decisive round of the fight.

A quick, short right froze Cruz and Serrano followed up with a flurry that drove the Mexican from one side of the ring to the other.

The 34-year-old Serrano, a champion in seven weight classes who decided late in her career to focus on

featherweight, smiled throughout the ring introductions.

She pumped her arms to encourage louder cheers from her Puerto Rican fans — who moments later began booing when Taylor was shown on a large video screen in the arena.

Both they were all smiles in the ring together afterward talking about what will be the unbeaten Taylor's first pro fight in Ireland.

Alycia Baumgardner gave the 130-pound division an undisputed champion with a unanimous decision victory over Elhem Mekhalel. Baumgardner (14-1, 7 KOs) added the vacant WBA belt to the three she had held since last year, using a pair of knockdowns to cruise to scores of 99-89 on two cards and 98-90 on the other.

After a couple competitive rounds to start, Baumgardner landed a right in the third round that momentarily buckled Mekhalel's legs. She quickly pounced and dropped her, and after Mekhalel (15-2) got up, Baumgardner swarmed her with a sustained attack that sent her to the canvas again.

Baumgardner had Mekhalel hurt again in the seventh, driving her back into the ropes and appearing close to stopping her before Mekhalel was able to escape the round and they had a good exchange in the eighth. □



**Francesco Friedrich and Team of Germany reacts after the the Men's 4-Bob World Championships in St. Moritz, Switzerland, on Sunday, Feb. 5, 2023.**

Associated Press

**ST. MORITZ, Switzerland (AP)** — Francesco Fried-

rich drove to his fifth consecutive world four-man

## German star Friedrich wins another 4-man world bobsled title

bobsled championship on Sunday, ending yet another dominant showing for Germany at the season's biggest competition.

Friedrich — also the two-time defending Olympic champion in the four-man event — and his team of Thorsten Margis, Candy Bauer and Alexander Schüller finished four runs over two days in 4 minutes, 19.61 seconds. That time was 0.69 seconds ahead

of the drivers who shared second place. Brad Hall of Britain and Emils Cipulis of Latvia both got their sleds across the line in 4:20.30. The U.S. four-man sled driven by Geoff Gadbois finished 18th.

Out of six events at the world championships — men's skeleton, women's skeleton, two-man, four-man, women's bobsled and women's monobob — Germany claimed five

gold medals and eight of a possible 18 medals overall. Britain grabbed the other gold when Matt Weston won the men's skeleton title. The U.S. tied for second with Britain in the overall medal standings at the world championships with two, both captured by Kaillie Humphries. She won silver in monobob and teamed with Kaysha Love for bronze in the two-woman event. □



## AP source: Kyrie Irving going to the Dallas Mavericks

By SCHUYLER DIXON

AP Sports Writer

**DALLAS (AP)** — Kyrie Irving is getting his wish. He's getting traded.

And Luka Doncic is getting another All-Star to help him in Dallas.

The Mavericks and Brooklyn Nets agreed Sunday on a blockbuster trade: Irving — the super-talented and often-enigmatic eight-time All-Star point guard — heads to Dallas, ending the pairing with Kevin Durant that never really had a chance to click.

The Nets get Spencer Dinwiddie, Dorian Finney-Smith and a package of draft picks, according to a person familiar with the terms of the deal who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because it had not been finalized. Dallas also gets Markieff Morris.

The Athletic and ESPN first reported the trade agreement. It will become complete once the teams have a call with the NBA, which is standard for all trades.

The move comes just two days after Irving told the Nets that he wanted to be traded by Thursday's league deadline, after talks about a contract beyond this season didn't go to his liking. He wasn't with the Nets for their game Saturday, and by Sunday afternoon, his time in Brooklyn appeared to be at an end. It was not immediately clear when Irving would make his debut with Dallas. The Mavericks play at Utah on Monday night. ESPN reported that Irving would take a physical in Dallas on Monday with a plan to join the team for a game Wednesday at the Los Angeles Clippers.

"My first reaction was it seemed like a really good move," Toronto coach Nick Nurse said Sunday before the Raptors faced Memphis. "(The Nets) got a lot of assets back for a guy who wasn't going to be back, it seemed. I think that's important to do. And I think for Dallas, they got a big-time star to go with the one they've got."

Irving is averaging 27.1



Brooklyn Nets' Kyrie Irving reacts during the second half of the team's NBA basketball game against the Detroit Pistons Thursday, Jan. 26, 2023 in New York.

Associated Press

points, 5.3 assists and 5.1 rebounds this season. Doncic is averaging 33.4 points, 8.9 rebounds and 8.2 assists. They instantly become one of the NBA's top duos, and figure to make Dallas even

a stronger contender in a Western Conference that has no shortage of championship-capable teams. Irving is, for now, scheduled to become a free agent after the season. The Los An-

geles Lakers were believed to have been one of a few teams interested in Irving — a notion that could have reunited Irving with LeBron James, with whom he won a title with in Cleveland in 2016. The trade does again pair Irving with Dallas general manager Nico Harrison, who was a Nike executive before taking over the Mavericks in 2021.

Irving had a relationship with Nike for the entirety of his NBA career until earlier this season, when the sneaker giant dropped him — and canceled the planned release of his next signature shoe just before it dropped — as part of the massive fallout from Irving posting a link to an anti-semitic film on his Twitter account. That was one of

many drama-filled sagas that marked Irving's time with the Nets. He wouldn't get vaccinated against COVID-19 and, because of New York City workplace rules, had to miss most of Brooklyn's home games last season. He also took two leaves of absence during the 2020-21 season.

He has also expressed no shortage of controversial opinions during his career — including repeated questioning whether the Earth was round before eventually apologizing to science teachers.

The various issues limited Irving to 143 games in three-plus seasons with the Nets, and he and Durant were together for just 74 of them after their celebrated pairing in the summer of 2019. □

Everyday triple points

Totally sanitized table and chips.

## ORCHID CASINO

Located in the Riu Antillas (formerly the Westin)

welcomes you to **RESERVE YOUR OWN PRIVATE TABLE** for you and your party.

**RESERVE your Private Table**

**Call 525 7777 ext.209 to make a reservation.**





## Start this year's vacation with this amazing experience in the heart of Costa Linda Beach Resort.

*Water's Edge Restaurant is a jewel many had the pleasure to find!*

**Eagle Beach – When you think of a restaurant that pleases the needs of a whole family or a large group of people with all different tastes? Think Water's Edge Restaurant. Located at the shore of Aruba's most wonderful beach, The Eagle Beach Aruba. Water's Edge Restaurant is guaranteed to serve you a fantastic magical night to remember. Whether you prefer to enjoy the view from indoors air conditioned comfort, outdoors in the soft tropical breeze or under a palapa with your toes in the sand. This spectacular restaurant offers the best ocean view sunset or sky full of stars dinner while the crispy Caribbean night wind caresses your face and plays with your hair.**

From the minute you arrive there will be a great staff welcoming you with the most contagious smiles and warmth. The intense menu with a great variety of appetizers, main courses and delicious desserts will not disappoint. Seafood, Steaks and international favorites. All on one menu specially made just for you.

### Culinary Voyage

Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy Calamari or the mouthwatering creamy Garlic Tarragon Shrimp.

You can also opt for a classic French Onion Soup, a Lobster Bisque or the famously Water's Edge House Wedge, a crisp wedge of fresh romaine lettuce topped with homemade blue cheese dressing, diced tomatoes, chopped bacon, caramelized pecans and blue cheese crumbles, drizzled with balsamic reduction. This followed by the Chef's special of seafood such as Fresh salmon filet seasoned and grilled, topped with lemon cilantro butter and served with homemade mashed potatoes and fresh asparagus, a nice plate of Ahi Tuna or a succulent pasta dish like the Florentina Fettuccine Alfredo. Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of a devourable 22oz. Bone-In "Tomahawk" Rib-Eye, pan seared in garlic infused oil and finished in the oven or our juicy N.Y Strip Loin, seasoned & grilled. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi glace, mushroom sauce, or bacon blue cheese butter. For extra sides the options are delectable. Fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, mashed or baked potatoes, fries or rice and beans. Combine your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wine from the

great selection of international wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests. To end the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness, the desserts are wild. From a piece of coconut flan, NY cheese cake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with chocolate sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.

### Creating memories

If you are planning a birthday dinner, here you will receive a nice bottle of champagne to take home with you to extend your experience even further whether on the beach or your own private balcony.

### Live entertainment

Just about every day of the week, there is a different live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. Whether you're in a romantic mood, or more in a swinging mood, there is absolutely a night especially for you where you can combine great music with delicious cocktails mixed with concoctions. In addition, Water's Edge offers three daily Happy Hours from 12pm-1pm, 4pm-6pm and again from 9pm-10pm with all premium brands specially priced.

### Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Whether you join us for breakfast, lunch or dinner, Water's Edge Restaurant & Bar offers a relaxed and inspirational dining experience overlooking the beautiful Eagle Beach with spectacular ocean views. Gather with friends and family for drinks and appetizers or a night of pampering and relaxation.



### Thank you to all our guests

From the bottom of our hearts, we would like to Thank all of our guests who showed us so much love and support all throughout the year, and hopefully will continue to do so in the years to come. What we are most grateful for is that we could get back to doing what we love, which is looking after our guests. So, thank you for every dinner, lunch, breakfast, every to-go order, every glass of wine, every birthday, anniversary and date-night that you spent with us this last year. To our new guests, Welcome! We hope you to see you back soon! ☐



*"Water's Edge Restaurant is where magnificent beach views, amazing food and excellent service come together."*

Water's Edge is open daily from 8am – 11pm

To reserve your table please call **+297 583-8000 / ext 8106** or direct line **+297 586-9494**

For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website **watersedge-aruba.com**

